

Senate Bill 222

By: Senators Grant of the 25th, Unterman of the 45th, Hooks of the 14th and Thomas of the 54th

AS PASSED

AN ACT

To amend Article 1 of Chapter 26 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the "Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act," so as to revise the definition of "advanced practice registered nurse"; to revise language relating to the use of the title by a licensed registered nurse or advanced practice registered nurse; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Article 1 of Chapter 26 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the "Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act," is amended in Code Section 43-26-3, relating to definitions, by revising paragraph (1.1) as follows:

"(1.1) 'Advanced practice registered nurse' means a registered professional nurse licensed under this chapter who is recognized by the board as having met the requirements established by the board to engage in advanced nursing practice and who holds a master's degree or other graduate degree approved by the board and national board certification in his or her area of speciality, or a person who was recognized as an advanced practice registered nurse by the board on or before June 30, 2006. This paragraph shall not be construed to require a certified registered nurse anesthetist who graduated from an approved nurse anesthetist educational program prior to January 1, 1999, to hold a master's degree or other graduate degree."

SECTION 2.

Said article is further amended in Code Section 43-26-6, relating to the use of the title by a licensed registered nurse or advanced practice registered nurse, by revising subsection (d) as follows:

"(d) Any person who is licensed as a registered professional nurse shall identify that he or she is so licensed by displaying either the title 'registered professional nurse' or 'registered

nurse,' the abbreviation 'R.N.,' the title 'advanced practice registered nurse,' or the abbreviation 'A.P.R.N.' on a name tag or other similar form of identification during times when such person is providing direct patient care. An advanced practice registered nurse shall meet the identification requirements of this subsection by displaying the title or abbreviation of his or her area of specialization."

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.